

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein each of the veneer sheets includes a separating material provided on one side thereof, and wherein the heating step is effected in a device that supplies the heat.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 3 21, wherein a fabric is arranged between the intermediate layer of the core material and each of the respective veneer sheets.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the separating material is at least one of a release paper and a release foil.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2,
wherein the device is at least one of a heating press and an
autoclave.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4,
wherein the fabric is a fiber fabric.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4,
wherein the fabric is resin-impregnated.

11-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21,
wherein the applied pressure is from 0.5 to 7 bar.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21,
wherein the fire-retardant flat structural member is produced
over a period of time of from 10 to 120 minutes.

16-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A method of producing a fire-retardant
flat structural member configured as a composite body comprising
the steps of:

providing at least two veneer sheets and an intermediate layer of a core material located therebetween to provide the composite body;

disposing a resin film ~~on each of the veneer sheets between~~
the intermediate layer of the core material and the respective
veneer sheet on each side of the intermediate layer, the veneer
sheets having pores; and

supplying heat to the veneer sheets such that (i) water bound in the pores of the veneer sheets evaporates and is exhausted from the pores thereof and (ii) the resin films are liquefied by the heat, the exhausting evaporated water drawing the liquefied resin films into the pores of the veneer sheets by capillary action,

the step of heating being effected under an applied pressure such that the evaporated water exhausted from the pores flows out through edges of the member.